Purchase of Boeing-777

4908. SHRI P. UPENDRA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Airlines and Air India propose to buy the new Boeing-777 from America; and

(b) how many such aircrafts are proposed to purchased and at what cost ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) At present, both Air India Limited and Indian Airlines Limited have no specific proposal to acquire B-777 aircraft,. Air India will evaluate this aircraft, alongwith others before making a final selection of Medium Capacity Long Range Aircraft.

Equipping Delhi and Bombay Airports with Navigational Equipment

4909. SHRI SURESH KALMADI . Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Bombay and Delhi Airports are proposed to be equipped with Rs. 400 crores worth of State of art navigational equipment to cater to the anticipated growth in air traffic;

(b) if so, what are the details of the equipment; and

(c) what is the foreign exchange component of the expenditure involved ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Modernisation of Air Traffic Services at Delhi and Bombay Airports is under implementation at a total cost of Rs. 352 crores involving foreign exchange component of Rs. 242 crores. The project envisages interalia installation of modern navigational aids like Instrumental Landing System (ILS), Conventional Very High Frequency Omni Range (CVOR), Doppler Very High Frequency Omni Range (DVOR), High Power Distance Measuring Equipment (HDME), Low Power Distance Measuring Equipment (LDME), Automation Equipment, Airport Surveillance Radar (ASR), Air Route Surveillance Radar (ARSR), Monopulse Secondary Surveillance Radar (MSSR), Airport Surface Detection Equipment (ASDE), Automatic Self Briefing System (ASBS), Voice Communication Control System (VCCS), Radar Data Processing system (RDPS), Flight Data Processing System (FDPS).

Old aircrafts with the national carriers

4910. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE :
SHRI SURESH KALMADI :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the national carriers, Air India and Indian Airlines are flying the oldest aircraft in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details and the number of aircrafts which are more than 15 years old;

(c) whether Government propose to phase out such old aircrafts; and

(d) if so, what is the detailed programme in respect thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) Only those aircraft which have valid certificate of Airworthiness are allowed to operate air services. Air India and Indian Airlines have in their fleet the following aircraft which are more than 15 years old :—

Aircraft Type	No. of Aircraft
Air India—B 747-200	4
Indian Airlines—Airbus A-300	4
Boeing 737	6

(c) and (d) Both Indian Airlines and Air India have long term plans for phasing out of old aircraft and fleet renewal. However, the exact number and types of aircraft to be acquired and the cost cannot be indicated with any degree of finality at this stage.

According to the indicative plans, in future, Air India would follow a policy of retiring its aircraft after 10 years of age and Indian Airlines would retire its aircraft after 14-16 years of age subject to availability of resources and suitable aircraft.